## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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O 180848Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9601 AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL NEW DELHI 2703

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, IN, NP, US

SUBJECT: G.P. KOIRALA CALL AT EMBASSY

REF: A. STATE 31573 B. DELHI 2539

1. EMBOFF O'CONNELL MET WITH G.. KOIRALA AND PRAKASH KOIRALA (B.P. KOIRALA'S SON) FEBRUARY 18 TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM J.P. NARAYAN TO AMBASSADOR GOHEEN. SUBSTANTIVE TEXT OF LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 16 FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: WE ARE ALL DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT MR.
KOIRALA'S DETERIORATING HEALTH. IT APPEARS FROM TODAY'S
NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT THE NEPAL GOVERNMENT, ISNTEAD OF
RELEASING HIM AND SENDING HIM TO THE UNITED STATES FOR
TRATMENT, IS PROCEEDING WITH HIS TRIAL. THIS IS REALLY
STRANGE, IN VIEW OF YOUR TELEPHONIC MESSAGE TO ME ABOUT
A WEEK BACK THAT MR. KOIRALA MIGHT BE RELEASED SHORTLY.
I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY AND GRATEFUL IF YOU CONTACT
PRESIDENT CARTER, IF NECESSARY, AND APPRISE HIM OF THE
PRESENT SITUATION, SO THAT HE MAY KINDLY DO SOMETHING TO
SECURE MR. KOIRALA'S RELEASE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. END QUOTE.

2. THE KOIRALAS TOLD O'CONNELL THT B. P.'S HEALTH IS VERY BAD. THEY CLAIM TO HAVE AHD A "SECRET MESSAGE" FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL.

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SENIOR ROYAL PHYSICIAN IN ATTENDANCE THAT B.P. IS LIKELY TO HAVE A STROKE AT ANY TIME AND THAT HIS SECOND OPERATION IS NECESSARY. THEY SAID THAT HIS CONTRADICTED PUBLICHED REPORTS THAT THE PHYSICIANS HAD SAID KOIRALA'S HEALTH WAS NOT BAD NOW. PRAKASH NARAYAN ALSO SAID THAT HIS "AUNTIE" HAD SEEN B.P. YESTERDAY AND THAT HE LOOKED VERY BAD. THEY ALSO SAID THAT THEY THOUGHT THAT IF PRESIDENT CARTER

ASKED THE KING TO RELEASE B.P., HE WOULD DO SO. G.P. KOIRALA SAID THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO PATNA MONDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY 20 AND ASKED WHAT MESSAGE HE SHOULD TAKE BACK TO J.P. NARAYAN.

3. O'CONNELL SAID THAT THE LETTER AND CONVERSATION WOULD BE REPORTED TO THE AMBASSADOR. SHE ALSO SAID THAT SHE THOUGHT THAT THERE HAD BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR'S TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH J.P.AND THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD NOT INTENDED TO CONVEY THAT WE HAD INFORMATION THAT BMP. MIGHT BE RELEASED SHORTLY. (AMBASSADOR CAREFULLY PASSED TO J.P. ONLY THE CONTENTS OF STATE 31573
AND NOTHING MORE.) FYI: THE WEEKLY CURRENT OF FEBRUARY 17 CARRIED A BRIEF REPORT ALONG LINES OF J.P. 'S LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR AND SAID THAT B.P. WAS GOING TO BE RELEASED SOON
AS A RESULT OF A TELEPHONE CALL FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO KING BIRENDRA. END FYI.

4. UNLESS DEPARTMENT HAS OTHER VIEWS, WE INTEND TO HAVE O'CONNEL TELEPHONE G.. KOIRALA ON MONDAY AND INFORM HIM THAT THE AMBASSADOR IS FORWARDING THE CONTENTS OF J.P. 'S LETTER TO WASHINGTON. SHE WILL ALSO REPEAT THAT THERE HAS BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING IN PATNA ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR'S TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH J.P. GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS WELFARE, MEETINGS, DEPENDENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE02703
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D780180-0842, D780075-1003 Format: TEL From: NEW DELHI

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780237/aaaabfmf.tel

Line Count: 86 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 54ec07d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 STATE 31573

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3549179 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: G.P. KOIRALA CALL AT EMBASSY

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, IN, NP, US, (KOIRALA, G P), (KOIRALA, B P)

To: STATE KATHMANDU

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/54ec07d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Már 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014